

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Department of Natural Resources
Room 1010
November 12, 2003

Minutes

Member Present:

SOWARDS, Glade – Utah Energy Office
MILLIS, Eric – Division of Water Resources
HARTY, Kimm – Utah Geological Survey
KEENE, Michael – Technology & Science
CANNING, Michael – Division of Wildlife Resources
SCHLOTTHAUER, Bill – Division of Water Rights
BAKER, Walt – DEQ, Division of Water Quality
GRUBAUGH-LITTIG, Pam – Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
BIRKES, William – DEQ, Division of Drinking Water
CHRISTY, Kim – School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration
KAPPE, Karl – Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands
BLATTER, Therron – DEQ/Division of Environmental Response & Remediation

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn – GOPB/Department of Natural Resources
LANDURETH, Brenda – Department of Natural Resources
DOWNS, Dennis – DEQ/Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste
BOHN, Ralph – DEQ/Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste
RIGTRUP, Keith – Bureau of Land Management

I. Approval of Minutes

Glade Sowards called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Karl Kappe made a motion to approve the October 14, 2003 minutes. Michael Keene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Special Presentations/Discussion

Goshute Indian Reservation Landfill, Dennis Downs

A consortium of non-hazardous solid waste collection companies servicing commercial facilities in the valley are negotiating with the Goshute Indian Tribe for landfill property on the west side of the highway, in Skull Valley. The landfill would be located to the south of the proposed high-level waste storage facility. However, this property is considered part of the buffer zone for the high-level nuclear waste storage facility. Two public scoping meetings have been conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It is anticipated that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be completed in March 2004.

The state of Utah and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) both have no regulatory authority to permit this activity on the reservation. The tribe has assured the state of Utah that all regulations will be met. In the state of Utah, a commercial solid waste proposal would need to be approved by the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste, the legislature and the governor. It would be difficult to obtain a permit.

The proposal includes using bailed and wire bound waste material that will be transported, stacked and covered. This will require less landfill space and will reduce the infiltration of waste material.

However, the amount of mechanical labor required will increase. Currently, no design plans are required. Please provide comments about this project proposal in spring 2004.

III. Reports from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects

Karl Kappe, stated that the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands is pleased that the 2003 fire season has ended and that the recent precipitation is appreciated.

Eric Millis, Division of Water Resources, reported that snow packs are up 75 percent in northern Utah, but precipitation since October 1, 2003 is down approximately 65 percent.

Keith Rigtrup reported that Bureau of Land Management is conducting a Moab and Monticello resource management planning (RMP) public scoping meeting, Wednesday, November 12, 2003, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Red Butte Gardens, in Salt Lake City. Public meetings will also be held in Green River, Moab, and Monticello, Utah and Grand Junction, Colorado. The deadline for public input ends December 30, 2003. You can provide comment on the web site, www.moabrmpl.com. The grazing EIS for the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument will be discussed. The socio-economic scoping meetings were held in October 2003. These meetings were very well attended.

Comments on the Price RMP were submitted by Val Payne and John Harja. State and county comments are being incorporated.

Utah BLM staff is traveling to Washington D.C. to brief the director.

The Draft Vernal RMP will be completed after the beginning of the year. Comments are due this Tuesday, November 18, 2003 to John Harja. The draft EIS will be completed after the first of the year.

The Kanab Field Office will initiate a contract to begin the RMP revision process after the budget has been finalized. Cedar City is a high priority for revision next year. The Salt Lake City RMP is outdated and the BLM has submitted a request for revision.

Bill Schlotthauer, Division of Water Rights, announced that a water rights information meeting will be held in Price on Tuesday, November 18, 2003, at 6:00 p.m., at the courthouse.

Kim Christy, School and Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA), stated that SITLA is investigating trespass and theft of forest timber resources throughout the state. SITLA is considering hiring an inhouse law enforcement officer for investigations and has hired a new forester in the Price area (Adam Robinson). SITLA is also addressing all-terrain vehicle pressure, ATV licensing is tripling statewide concerned about resource degradation.

Pam Grubaugh-Littig, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM), announced that Johnny Ratheus was nominated by DOGM and has received the best reclamation award. He has worked on reclamation projects at Castlegate and Willow Creek and has gone the extra mile on every project. The Mineral Section continue to coordinate with Kennecott Utah Copper regarding reclamation

efforts. Lost Canyon in the Provo area an individual has been quarrying without a permit. DOGM is working to resolve this issue.

Mike Canning, Division of Wildlife Resources, stated that the new sensitive species list will be completed soon. The proposed list is on the website. The Wildlife Board will meet on December 18, 2003 to finalize the list. Two species on the proposed list, Peregrine falcon and the Mountain Plover, were not recommended for inclusion on the final list by the Wildlife Species of concern and Habitat Designation Advisory Committee.

The annual RDCC Christmas Potluck will be held at the December 9, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., in the DNR Auditorium, room 1060. Quality refreshments are a must.

The last report about the Quitchupah project proposal indicated that the tribe had declared the canyon area sacred ground. Glade Sowards will report on this project proposal at the next meeting.

IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library

Copies of the Project Management Library were made available. Additional CDs were available for the Utah Department of Transportation has completed the Draft I-15, 31st Street to 2700 Weber County.

The RDG project proposal was signed before the governor left the state to head the EPA.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:50 a.m.